SOME NEW BOOKS

H. S. Maine's Lutest Pesays

The lectures and essays which have made Bir HENRY SUMNER MAINE & high authority or history of ancient law and primitive institutions are now supplemented by a new reoriginally published in English reviews, while the others represent the substance of lectures delivered at Oxford. In these papers, viewed collectively, the author pursues the line of it ration followed in his preceding works his aim being to explain certain existing institutions by connecting them with primitive or very ancient usages of mankind, and with the dess associated with these usages.

To the American reader the first four essays

printed in this new volume may be less interesting than they are to those Englishmen who appreciate the huge difficulties involved in the judicial administration of British India, No. sooner had men recognized the impossibility of applying the principles of the English common law and the forms of English procedure in the courts of the Indian empire, than the question arose. What body of substantive parisprudence was to be drawn from native sources and ex-pounded by the ruling power? In the case, ined, of the fifty million Sunnite Mohammedans, the problem was easily solved; for an English Judge may at once lay his hand upon the books which all orthodox Moslems would concur in pronouncing authentic reposito ries of the Mohammedan law, But with a far more numerous element of the Indian population-the Hindus, who abide in the Brahmanical religion-the case is widely different. Here, to be sure, law and religion are even more closely interfused than they are among Mohammedans, but there is no infal Uble code like the Koran, nor are there any collections of traditional interpretations and deductions which are universally invested with supreme authority. It follows that to adminlater justice according to Brahmanical law, in a way which should be at once consistent and acceptable, is entirely impracticable. In one part of India, among the adherents of a particular sector school, one document or set of documents will be held in peculiar reverence, while in another district other teachings will be more highly venerated and more deeply interwoven local usages and ideas. Now, the special merit of Sir H. S. Maine's essays on the subject lies in the direction of negative or destructive criticism, rather than in that of Illuminating or constructive suggestion. Not being himself a Hindu scholar, but forced to obtain his information concerning Brahmanical literature at second hand, he does not assume to tell the Government of British India what particular writings ought to be made the text books of Hindu law in this or that particular province. But he is able, on the other hand, to point out what Indian administrators ought not to have done, and what it behooves to undo as rapidly as possible.

The fundamental blunder committed in this

matter by the Calcutta authors was due, it seems, to Sir William Jones, to whom, ur doubtedly, modern Sanskrit scholarship is greatly indebted, but whose opinions deserved no more weight than belongs to the vague and hasty impressions of a pioneer. It was Sir William Jones who translated the so-called Book of Manu, and caused the Indian Government to accept it as the basis of all Hindu la and institutions, as the fountain of all civil obligation to more than a hundred millions of men. To this document he assigned the date of 1280 B. C., and described it as holding toward the mass of Hindu law a position procisely analogous to the relation of the Institutes to the Digest of Justinian. It is a special object of Sir H. S. Maine, in some of the essays now published, to demonstrate the deplorable ets of misconception upon which as on a rotten corner stone. the whole fabric of Hindu jurisprudence, as administered under British supervision, has been reared. The truth is that the Book of Manu was composed, according to Max Müller, not earlier than 200 B. C., and the high authority of Dr. Burnell is cited for se an age of the original document as 400 A. D. Indeed, there is ground to attribute it in its present form even to so modern a date as the fourteenth century of our era. In other words, a book which Sir William Jones sup posed contemporaneous with the siege of Troy is more likely to have been contemporaneous with the battle of Bannockburn. Manu, in fact, belongs to the Hindu apoerypha. writer of the extant book as somebody different from himself." Elsewhere we are assured that 'if Manu was to be compared at all to a book Englishmen, it should have been likened to a book a good deal more familiar to them than the Roman Institutes, viz., the book good deal of law, is "essentially a book of ritual, of priestly duty, and of religious obsorvance.

These trenchant strictures on the funda-

mental errors of the judicial system imposed upon the Hindu subjects of the British crown in India will compel the serious attention British legislators. But, as we have said, the American reader will be apt to turn with more curiosity to other papers included in this volume, such, for instance, as the discussions of the Salie law and of the decay of feudal property in France and England. Of course, in the former of these last-mentioned essays the author does not waste his time in slaying the slain, by demonstrating the non-existence of the so-called Salie law of succession invoked against the claim of Edward III, to the French crown. But although there never was a lex Salica applicable to the inheritance of thrones, there is no doubt that since 1316 there has been a Salie rule followed in France, and thence transferred to other countries, by which the right of succession is limited to males through males. But why was it that such a rule became established in France at the beginning of the fourteenth century, when it did not exist in many other feudal countries in Castile, instance, or in England, where both Stephen and Henry II. had derived their title to the crown from females? It is the main purpose of Sir H. S. Maine's essay to account for this curious anomaly, and he finds the expla- strictly scientific spirit. nation in a rare and striking poculiarity in the family history of the Capetians. For more than three hundred years (from 987 to 1328) the Kings sprung from Hugh Capet succeeded one another, son to father, or brother to brother, there being through all this time no occasion to call in a remote collateral, an uncie, a greatuncle, or a cousin. How unusual such a succession is, Sir H. S. Maine demonstrates by a very simple test. "Let us take." he says. half dozen conspicuous men of a hundred years since, and we shall find that their living descendants through males are few, though their descendants through women may be numerous. Go two hundred years back, and you will see that the fewness of male descendants through males from men of eminence much increases, and if you go three hundred years back the paneity becomes extraor-dinary." The accident that the Capetian dynasty had constituted an exception to this almost invariable rule the atthor believes to be the secret of the principle of succession propounded by the French States General in 1316. There is nothing," he remarks, "even now very uncommon in the frame of mind which leads men to think that everything of which they know or remember nothing to the contrary has existed from all time and ought to continue forever. But in an age in which historical knowledge was all but non-existent. and in which the mass of mankind lived by usage, such a habit of thought must have been incomparably stronger; and we cannot doubt that men's minds were powerfully affected by ap uninterrupted continuation of male descents in the royal family of France, which, even to us, is impressive." Eisewhere in the same essay the author ine sts that French historians are mistaken in ascribing the exclusion of women and their issue to the intense national spirit which imporatively required that a King of France should be a French-

"It was not," he says, national spirit of Frenchmen which ere-ated the Salie rule, but the Salie rule, and the remarkable phenomenon by which the rule had been suggested, "had a great share in creating the French national spirit. Apropos of the heed paid to the Salic rule in although this principle was introduced in the spanish monarchy upon the accession of the Bourbon dynasty, yet it was formally set aside in the case of Isabella II., and is, of course, again disregarded in the person of her son, the present King. On the other hand, the succesion to the German empire, following that of the Prussian kingdom, is Salie; and in Russia where one of the most usual modes of succession was that of the widow of the preceding Emperor, the exclusive devolution of the crow brough males on males has been the law sine

THE RESERVE THE PROPERTY OF TH

he reign of Paul L In his essay on the comparative rate of decay f feudal property in France and England, Si H. S. Maine dispels a good many current fallacies, and ascribes to its true causes the excep tional raneor with which the rural cultivator regarded the landowning aristocrat under the turien régime. It was not at all, as is common ly supposed, because the French nobles monopolized a much larger share of the national soil than did the nobility and gentry it Great Britain. A much larger proportion the arabic land belonged to great landowners in England, and there was a far smaller numer of yeomen or peasant proprietors. Sir H. S. Maine, indeed, pronounces it "one of th most vulgar of errors to suppose that small properties in France date from th Revolution. Immediately before it thur Young, one of the most observ-ant of English travellers, expresses himself as am sed at their multitude. And this multitude was increasing, since the peasants wer buying up the domains of the richer nobility ruined by the court life at Versailles." word, the fundamental griovance of the French peasant was not agrarian, but administrative; what he complained of was not so much the distribution of the land as the exasperat ing foudal dues to which his holding was su jected, and the innumerable petty monopolies by which his profits were curtailed. Now, these lues and monopolies, which remained in ful force in France up to 1789, had become aimos extinct in England. Moreover, the manoria courts were still active in the French provinces and powerfully assisted the French to enforce his traditional privileges at the expense of the villeins. In England, on the other hand, those local tribunals had been almowholly superseded by the courts of the Justice of the Peace, which drew their authority, curse, from the Crown. The author does wish, he tells us, to be understood as affirming that the contrast between the view of each obligations and rights taken in England and France a century age is wholly to be explained by the causes analyzed in this essay, although he thinks these agencies have been kept too much in the background. He concurs with De Tocquoville in believing that the enormous social prestige of the French court and its constant indulgence of its military tastes had at length transformed the French territorial anobility into a caste as atterty distinct from the cultivating peasantry as is the raiput from the sudra in India, or as was the white planter of the Southern States from the negro who labored in his cotton fields.

The Virginia Campaign of '64 and '65.

The twelfth and concluding number of th series of monographs describing the "Camsaigns of the Civil War" recounts the operaions of the Army of the Potomac and the Army of the James, from the assumption of the ommand by Gen. Grant to the surrender of Lee's army at Appointatox. The capital importance of the campaign here depicted is not more manifest than the peculiar competence of the person chosen to depict it; for the author of this volume, Gon, ANDREW A. HUM-PHREYS, was chief of staff in the Army of the Potomac during the greater part of the movements portrayed, and only left that osition at a late stage of the test to assume command of the Second Corps Thus we have in this instance almost an idea combination of the conditions requisite fo the composition of authoritative military his tory. The opportunities enjoyed by a Chief of Staff for ascertaining the purpose, conduct, and results of a campaign are uncouniled excen of course, by those of a Commander-in-Chief and we may feel sure that such exceptional ad vantages will be turned to account when, as in this case, the Chief of Staff happens to our author says, "a reduction of the officer believed by all mon qualified to express legal doctrine of the Manavas, a gens or clan | an opinion on the subject, and to have one of the called after a Manu frequently mentioned in | most highly trained, best-furnished, and powerful intellects that were exerted on the North ern side during the late war.
It is indeed, impracticable to compare this

remarkable piece of analysis and criticism with any of its companion volumes. Unlike most of them, it is not written for the general reader. The author, seemingly, has never reof Leviticus." For Manu, though it contains a garded the task on which he entered from a literary point of view. He has no more had the general reader in his mind than the members f Von Moltke's staff looked forward to a popul lar audience when they recorded the operations of the war of 1870. In another notable partic ular this book differs materially from the preseding contributions to the same series. aimed to collect the raw materials, rather than to frame the enduring structure of history; they are menoires pour servir, provisional esti mates, which the future historian may qualify, or even reverse. On the other hand the military student is unlikely to admit that, for the purpose of exact informa tion and technical instruction, the record of the Virginia campaign in '64 and '65, now that it has once been traced by Gen. Hum phreys, will ever need to be rewritten. No doubt this patient and sober outline of the plans devised and the work done may serve hereafter as the solid groundwork of many a popular exposition, in which the merits of the actors will be set forth with an eloquence that is their due, but from which the professional annalist, who was himself a weighty factor in the event which he describes, has modestly abstained. In short, Gen. Humphreys has here written a soldier's book that will long be treasured by the student of the art of war among the manuals In which campaigns of superlative interest and magnitude are related with admirable ascuracy, and temperately, but fruitfully, discussed in r

> Even where Gen. Humphreys fluds it necessary to correct errors in preceding versions of the facts he has undertaken to set forth, he does it in the most succint and sudicial way being careful to forego any strictures upon the writers whose blunders he is forced to redress. He leaves, for instance, the reader to apply the suitable epithet to the rockless and incessant distortion of facts which renders the so-called Military Life of Gen. Grant " by Gen. Badeau pulte valueless to these who desire to disriminate history from romance. We should rave to go to the releatless but perfeetly disinterested executions performed by the entomologist for a parallel to the deadly lacidity with which Gon, Humphreys dissects the assertions and deductions of Badeau's sham history. In a note or two the operation is rapidly, but decisively, performed, and you see that Grant's stily eulogist has been firmly pinned to the cardioard, with scarcely enough vitality left in him to squirm. So, too, when tien, Humphreys has occasion to chronicle the miscarriage of momentous operations, and to fly the responsibility of failure upon the incompetence or misconduct of particular commanders, he does not permit trimself to use a word of censure, but confines himself to showing what ought to have been done in the particular situation. Thus, although candid persons were long ago convinced that the prominence bestowed by political and social influences on Gen. Burnside was, from first to last, a curse to the Army of the Potemac, and although the reader of this volume will be impressed by the fact that whenever the success of a movement depended on the cooperation of that commander it was pretty sure to fail, yet Gen. Humphrays merely notes on such occasions how much had been expected and how little was actually accomplished by the Rhode Island Bombastes. Again, when the author has to re-

count the melancholy collapse of the high

hapes entertained of the Army of t James, under Gen. Butler's comma he is singularly reticent, simply remark-ing, apropos of the "bottling" of Butler by Beauregard, that the Federal General "was ompletely paralysed so far as concerned of fensive operations." It is characteristic of Gen. Humphreys, that after thus calmly defining the result of Gen. Butler's demonstrations he proceeds to indicate in five times what the latter might and should have done, viz.: Butter's true policy, upon landing at the mouth of the Appomattox, would have been to disregard Richmond for a time and turn his attention to attacking Beaurogard's forces in detail as they arrived from the South, first taking Petersburg, which was then nearly defence-

While Gen. Humphreys is so studious to avoid the use of language which could possiby be construed as involving the assumption of a right to censure, he is equally averse to the more subtle form of self-assertion betrayed in the bestowal of praise. It has not, he says, in the sentence which brings his narrative to an end, "seemed to me necessary to attempt a eulogy upon the army of the Potomac or the army of northern Virginta." But although there is not a trace of panegyric or of detraction in these coloriess and limpid pages—although events are delineated precisely as they occurred, and the chief actors are portrayed in their true relations and proportions—yet for that very reason a conviction is planted in the reader that the current verdict on the morits of the Generals principally concerned will bear considerable reconstruction. We get, for instance, a strong impression that the preponderant and aimest exclusive credit popularly given to Gen, Grant for the triumphant termination of the Virginia campaigns can hardly be reconciled with the facts, and that the sterling but hitherto ill-approciated services of Gen. Meade are now certain to receive a proper recognition at the hands of future historians. of a right to censure, he is equally averse to

The Practice of Medicine in the Middle Ages

There is a great deal of recondite and curious, but ill-digested and sometimes inaccurate learning in a book compiled by Mr. George F FORT, and published by J. W. Bouton, under the somewhat inappropriate thie of Medica money During the Middle Ages. The scope of the inquiry prosecuted in this volume is much wider than would be inferred from the title, for the author begins with reviewing the progress made in the development of the art of medicine at Alexandria under the Ptolemies, and proceeds to trace the gradual evolution of improved systems of surgery and medicine at Rome through the migration of Greek physiians. A chapter is devoted to Galen, and more than 150 pages are employed in discussing the deterioration of the medical profession in the six centuries which intervened between Galen and Charlemagne. Nevertheless, the author has left himself ample room for recounting the results of his researches in the special field of

mediaval medicine.

Mr. Fort has certainly accumulated a vast amount of materials which, in the hands of a man more sedulous to weigh, sift, and classify evidence, and possessed of more literary skill might have been wrought into a work of per manent interest and value. But, besides his failure to properly discriminate between the trustworthiness of different authorities. Mr Fort's arrangement of his matter is loose and ineffective and we have seldom seen a more slovenly and inaccurate diction in a book of squal pretensions. Notwithstanding such drawbacks, the compliation may be regarded as a mine from which much useful information can be drawn in a crude state, but whose com ments and deductions must be scanned with a vary eye to the insufficient premises on which

they are often founded. A marked change in the social status of th medical profession dates from the fourteenth century. Up to that time monks and cleries in general had been discouraged and often pronibited from studying medicine. Mr. Fort points out that an interdiction to that effect was published in the year 1130 at a General Council held at Rheims, and the injunction was frequently reiterated in Papal decretals. I was not, as we have said, until the age o Petrarch and Boccaccio that the University o Bologna obtained a dispensation permitting matriculating of cieries as licentiates to readings of medicine. About the same period the school of Pisa received a like authorization for the regular attendance of clerks upon med ical lectures. It was, as Mr. Fort remarks, unfortunate for the development of art of medicine in the medicinal pethe most cultivated were so long debarred from applying to the functions and acquirements of a physician the habit of searching criticism and investigation which at that time the scholastic intellect was hundred years after the curative art had made ome notable advances in the hands of Jewish and Mohammedan practitioners in southern Spain and in Sicily, it was relegated in the greater part of Europe to the degrading companiouship of ignorance and charlatanism We should, however, bear in mind that wherever the Israelites had become demicited in the towns of occidental Europe, many of them as early as the tenth century had embraced the practice of medicine. It is also to be noted that the cures performed by even the most successful of these Jewish physicians seldom availed to protect them from popular violence while if a patient happened to die upon their hands they were almost certain to be tried for polsoning. On account indeed of surgery beng so long subjected to the interdict of both civil and ecclesiastical society, and of its consequent abandonment to barbers and Jews, the mediaval analysts seldom referred to chi rurgical operations without contempt or disgust until the science was rehabilitated by Italian professors. It is significant that even as late as the fourteenth century, when the Italian schools had done so much for the revival of the curative art, Petrarch, the most learned man of his age, in writing to the Roman Pontiff. Clement VII., adjured him to avoid medical treatment of any kind, which, he said, even in the hands of the most eminent physician of the time, was synonymous with certain death. Strange to say, however, Petrarch, himself, notwithstanding his extreme skepticism touching the utility of therapoutics professed the highest respect for one contemporary physician, the Italian Tomasco. Another talian, Mundino, who flourished somewhat earlier than Petrarch (he is said to have died in 1826), acquired such great and lasting reputation by his lectures on anatomy that a statute of the University of Padua, which remained in force until the sixteenth century, ordered medi-

of the University of Padua, which remained in force until the sixteenth century, ordered medical licentiates to follow his teachings literally and rigidly. It has been indeed, quite generally admirated by modern medical historians that Mandino should be credited with the restocation of anatomy to the proportions of an exact science, and that from this point of view he may justly be pronounced the precursor of the modern system.

Long before the healing art had been replaced on anything like a rational basis in the rest of Christian Europe a great deal of the ground lost since tishen was recovered in the kingdom of the Two Sicilies. Here the presence of a large Mohammedan population offered facilities for the study of Arabian science, which had preserved and in some directions augmented the knowledge gained by the Helienic anatomists and botanists and by Greek compyricism generally. Some of the Sicilian haws relating to the practice of medicine and to sanitary regulations attest a surprising degree of knowledge and sagacity on the part of the legislator. For instance, a decree of Frederic II, prohibits under severe penalities, the sale of diseased pork and delectorious bread in his Sicilian and Noapolitan dominions. Another sanitary ordinance by the same Emperor orders the doad bedies of men or animais to be buried in remote localities or carried out to sea and sunk. Another reseript of this sovereign's prescribes minute rules for the guidance of physicians in their practice. They were required to give granuitous attention to the indigent sick and a maximum lee was fixed for their professional services to the wall to do. The less of apotheoaries were also specified, and physicians were sternly admonished against secret association with druggists to defraud patients by illegal additions to the legal cost of compounding remedies. In other parts of Europe, however, medical honoraria seem to have been generally determined by special contracts, often contingent on the resevery of the patients. The sums thus pledged i

Broadway is one of the four or five gree

reets of the world, and, with all its archite tural failings, is the principal cause of th good impression which our city usually first makes upon strangers. The certainty with which one turns into it and returns to i no matter where else he may have to go; its magnificent length, its bustle, and the showy appearance of the majority of the buildings on it, make it a very imposing thoroughfare. In other streets of equal fame most of the houses are very plain or tame and vary little from one another. On Broadway, carvings and castings pillars and cornices are the rule, not the exception, and the eye does not at once perceive that they are mainly of Though the styles of stone-building more o less loosely copied in these materials are many the newcomer is pleased to find that the simple pillar or pier and round arch character istic of northern Italy predominate, because while pleasant and easily understood, this style seems as suitable to our clear and dry atmos phere as it is to that of the country in which i originated. But when one becomes tired of the sham architecture of our shop fronts, and looks about him for some building really worth rest ing his eye upon, he finds little to compare with even the lesser architectural glories of European cities. We have a large number of big buildings, most of them so situated that one can hardly miss seeing them; but, for anything in their appearance, few are worthy of a sec ond glance Those that can be looked upon with pleasure are either quite old or quite new and very many are atroctous specimens o bungling and bad taste. Of our older public buildings the United

States Treasury in Wall street, which is not a bad model of a Doric temple, and the little Ionic building beside it, which serves as the Assay Office, can safely be commended, not for originality, but for good architectural feeling The somewhat lanky fluted columns of th Custom House are not devoid of grace, and the Gothic spire of Trinity, which closes the vista up this rather decent street, is not incongruou with these classic matters. The old City Hall too, strikes one as a reasonable piece of work and the front of St. Peter's old Catholic church on Barclay street, is another example of the determination of our forefathers to build in severe and well-understood styles. All this was completely changed when, ten

a dozon years ago, it became necessary to put up many great buildings for offices down town. A barbarous architectural fashion sprang up with them of decorating the pier and lintels and doorposts with sharp, project ing mouldings and horrible carvings, appar ently copied from the war clubs of South Ser Island savages. Of this, which may be called the Tall Tower style of architecture, the Trib une building, the United Bank building on the corner of Broadway and Wall street, and the Coal and Iron Exchange in Cortlandt street are the most frightful examples. The latter building has its entrance decorated with beavy stone brackets supporting polished granite pillars which in turn uphold a ponderous arch which, for its part, has nothing to support bu its own ugliness, and seems on the point breaking down under the weight of that. Our new Post Office is the type of another monstrous kind of building which has for its rule to pile up column upon column, and pediment over pediment, and to open window above window, withou regard to proportion, convenience, or effect, exopt such as is gained by more size and multiplielty of parts. The Equitable Assurance building and the Stock Exchange, in Broad street, are of this class; and, though not over loaded with ornament, the Babylonian pile of the Mills building, the Post building in the rear of the Custom House, and Mr. Cyrus Field's new office building at the junction of the Bowling Green and the Battery might be referred to as belonging to it. It would be better, however, to class them with the great new apartment house on Seventh and Fifth and Madison avenue

which are of similar architectural pretensions The lines of most of these are the same in the They are built with a solid stone base ment and first story; good, strong brick piers running up the entire remaining height, or carrying a low attic story by way of cornic string courses disposed so as to break the great height of the building; and windows groupe or separated to avoid monotony. Sometime the piers are treated as pilasters and crowned with squat capitals of stone or terra-cotta, and usually the dormer windows of the Mansard is taken to insert a stone sentcheon or so in the wall, and the stone dressings are carved. passably well or badly as the case may be

A good example of this kind of building is the apartment house now being erected a Fifth avenue and Twenty-eighth street. On Madison avenue and Thirtieth street is another plainer building with elaborate dormers ornamented with brick-work scrolls. The new Union League building has this last feature combined with several other suggestions of that fag end of the Benaissance known as the Queen Anne style. On Madison avenue and Twenty-eighth street there is a still plainer building of the same class, and the new Welles building on Bowling Green, though different, and much better in feeling may be said to be This is French rather than English or Dutch in character. Its Mansard roof sits well on it, and does not look incongruous or absurd. In spite of a certain pettiness of de tail it has a handsome general effect, due to good proportions. It is modern in its generous allowance of glass, but its granite piers and lintels are evidently strong enough to allow of even larger and more numerous openings.

The great apartment buildings on Fifty-ninth street and Seventh avenue, of which Hubert Pirrson & Co. are the architects, resemble Mr Post's gigantic construction on Broad street, in that they are built in separate masses connect ed by covered courts and imposing gatoways. Finally, there have sprung up within few years a great number of office and ware house buildings which, though perfectly plain have many of the good constructive peculiarities of the houses just described, and conse quently have some share of what is admirable in their appearance. A fair example of these is the building from which our contemporary the World, is issued.

The new Produce Exchange, in Bowling

Green, is conceived in a much nobler spirit than any of the new buildings that we have so far noticed. The clumsiness of its terra cotta mouldings and capitals and bulls' heads and prows of vessels, all wefully out of scale, hardly detracts from the fine impression produced by its three superposed rows of semicircular arches, diminishing in size toward the top. The proportions of these, and of the heavy piers and broad cornices dividing them vertically and horizon tally, are very handsome, and the completed building will be one of the principal architec-

tural ornaments of the lower part of the city.

The structures above enumerated show that there is a strong feeling among our architects in favor of Romanosque or round-arched aran layor of Romanosque or round-arched architecture; for even the larger buildings that affect the Queen Anne manner owe what show of roasonableness and strength they make to the influence of the earlier and more logical style. At the same time a number of public buildings in more or less pure Gothic, have been erected, which make it apparent that the admirers of Romanesque and Lombard architecture are not fgoing to have matters all their own way at once. The Roman Catholic Cathedral, the new church of the Paulist Fathers on Fiftyninth street, the new Jefferson Market and the Court House adjoining, are all respectable. Their arrangement is very creditable indeed. It is to be hoped that the old building which they so handsomely surround will be rebuilt without alteration of design. Its Doric columns, though only of brick and cement contrast finely with the buttreeses and pointed arches of the new structures, and this effect of the happy contrast of styles is not lightly to be thrown away. It gives to European cities at chitecture; for even the larger buildings that

least half their picturesque

not removed.

The costly private dwellings put up within a

short period seem to show that our architects

re still all at sea about that important branel of their business. Three members of one amily have, at the same time and within a few blocks of one another, erected three very con spicuous mansions as unlike in appearance a f they were intended for people of totally different antecedents, tastes, and occupations. A reat many grotesque gables and oriel window and clumsy stone balconies attest the existence of a passion for the Dutch Renaissance and the everlasting "Queen Anne," and, in fine, while every variety of undecided and wavering tasts is represented, there is little to show the pos session by anybody of confirmed ideas on the subject of house building for appearance.

Of the three Vanderbilt houses the one which wears best is undoubtedly that which designed and carried out by Mr. Hunt. It was bold experiment to reproduce in our time style so inconsequent and capricious as the early French Renaissance, and yet there were reasons to suppose that it might prove success. That was a transition style, and the present is a transition period. It was eclectic and our tastes run in all directions. It sacrifleed everything to ornament, and in the reac tion from duliness and ugliness ornament was considered the one thing needful. Well, the house is completely covered with ornament very beautifully designed and quite well exe cuted. Its front on the Fifth avenue is ridicu lous, but that on the side street and the rear are very well composed. Still it is a failure, a mistake. It is proof that the style which it affects was only for a day, that it has had its day, and cannot be resuscitated.

Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt's house in Fifty eighth street, being a milder and apparently more sensible adaptation of a later variation of the same style, furnishes a more conclusive proof of the same thing. Notwithstanding it moderation it is less satisfactory than the other house. As for Mr. William H. Vanderbilt's man sion, the less said about it the better. If it could only be treated like Tristram Shandy's first work it might be of some benefit to refer to it. But it cannot, and more's the pity.

If the extensive residence that Mr. Hunt is now finishing for Mr. Marquand, on the corner of Sixty-eighth street and Madison avenue, had been the first instead of the latest example of French Renaissance in our city, there would be some danger of that style becoming the fashion for a while. We may be thankful that it is otherwise, for if Mr. Hunt and Mr. Post have failed in it, what might we not expect from the haif-fledged architects and builders who have managed in attempting to follow the lend o Messrs. McKim and White to magnify the de fects and minimize the graces of their manne so as almost to bring it into disrepute before its originators had put up half a dozen houses.

The Marquand house is mainly in brick, but a fine-grained sandstone has been largely used in some of the masses of the building and in the ornamented portions. There is much less graament than in the Wm. K. Vanderbilt house, but it is of equally charming character Though nowhere crowded, the house may be said to sparkle all over with it. Fiorid capitals are built into the wall without any excuse of pillar or pllaster; mouldings forming ogee arches over round-arched doors and windows the use in connection with the same arch of open cusps bearing too strong a likeness to lace work balastrades with little figures of gentitheir quatrefoils, keep the amused in all parts of the building evidently this decorative license that has fascinated Mr. Hunt, as it is that which would play the deuce with lesser men if they should be tempted to undertake the style. It has not been without its bad effect on him. The greater part of the front on Madison avenue is extremely well balanced; that on the side street much less so, still it might pass; but what but a species of infatus tion, born of the general unreason of the style could have caused him to smash In his corner, not once, but twice? Once would have been bad enough. Mr. Marquand will never need to direct a cross-fire upon an assailing mob from all these redans and outposts. He is not that kind of a man; and, if he were, why leave the door of the fortress uncovered?

But criticism is silenced when we see, less than a block away, a brand new example of the dull and commonplace domestic architecture from which we are just escaping. The late Robert L. Stuart's new dwelling might have been built ten or fifteen years ago, when brown stone and late glass and a clumsy portico were l he has granite columns shaped to an entasis that makes the hard stones look as yielding as sausures. And he has curled and corkserewed brasses let into his door. These are the sacriflees made by his builder to the current demand for something new. Better all the whimwhams of all the jaunty young men with portfolios crammed with sketches of Danish church portals and Alexandrian balconies, than that we should go back in this way to the days im mediately succeeding the war.

The granite house that is going up on Fifth

avenue, nearly opposite the Metropolitan Museum, is different from any that we have mentioned. It looks at first sight as though it might have come out of one of the calders of M. Cæsar Daly, the architect à la mode of the best time of the Second Empire. It is full of extraordinary solecisms, such as it must have required a strong will to commit in this age mean and puerile devices. There are window frames with heavy mouldings in hard granite filled not with glass but stone, stuck up as screens on the housetop to hide nothing but a reentrant angle of the roof. There are others built into the chimney bases; and that worst of architectural ornaments, the scroll, is used, considering the cost of the material and the labor, quite freely. But these atrocious details are handled with the nerve of a Wagner. Regarded as every building which stands alone and has discernible parts should be regarded, as a putting together of blocks of masonry, the house is a great success. The objectionable features are like the intentional discords of the music of the future. There is evident a stiffnecked and bullying control over every member of the composition, from the strong mouldings to the narrow chimney-tops. and the house stands like a monolith, an almos unique witness to the presence of architectural genius in New York. Still, this sort of building has no more chance

to become general than that of the William K. Vanderbilt house. Both are but expressions of a personal taste, though the taste this time is characteristic, racy, with a recognizable smack to it. In all ages the architectural finish that has been given to ordinary houses has been de rived from the forms proper to the most imrived from the forms proper to the most important public or semi-public structure of the period-temple, bath, basilien, church, eastle, or palace. It may be taken for granted that whatever of set and decided form shall attach itself in the future to our architecture will be the result not of dull convism, but of the practical considerations that are imposed upon the dosigners of the large buildings that are peculiar to our day. The great office buildings apartment houses, and other utilitarian structures now in course of erection will be to the architecture of the future what cathed dials or palaces, were to the architecture

PICTURES OF LONDON-

What was Seen when the Lord Mayor Drove

LONDON, May 12.-A few days ago, as was idly lounging about the city, I was sud-denly dazzled by over-caparisoned steeds drawing gilded, much-emblasoned, and highly painted charlots, driven by men in Qu ounsels' wigs, in three-cornered hats, and in effulgent vestments. The dazzling procession formed itself as well as it could under the windows of the Mansion House. It was much impeded by a flight of skinny urchins laughing at the whole concern as merrily as if they had been the most contented creatures under the sun. Soon a big crowd, mostly composed of the overtasked city clerks, leisurely asset on the spot. On inquiry I found that the Lord Mayor was going in state to St. Paul's.

The carriages filled, overpoweringly solemn flunkovs bustled about with impressive dig nity; the City Marshal, dressed in a fancy mill tary uniform, mounted his docile charger; the Lord Mayor, escorted by his sword and mace bearers in mediaval costume, sat himself in his four-horsed chariot, and the gorgeous train moved on escorted by two or three stal wart constables on horseback and a dozer police officers on foot.

Just at the back of the Mansion House and looking on it, is St. Stephen, a fine church, rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren after the great
fire of London. In 1850 it was momentarily
drawn from obscurity by the somewhat starting discovery of 4,000 coffins in its vaults.

As I was passing having decided to go to St.
Paul's by another route to avoid the crowd. I
noticed a few loungers looking at some object
on the pavement at the fact of the church. I
drow nearer. A police officer was kindly supporting a young woman, ceaniy and miserably
clad. She had fainted after telling the constable that she had not touched food for three
days. Her hands were admirably moulded.
She had long and slender fingers, but astonishingly thit and of a deadly paleness. Her waxen
complexion warranted the truth of her story.

But don't you see that she is dying," said a
nowcomer, an elderly gentleman, probably a
doctor, to the policeman, "Take her at once
to the public house yonder." Then the constable, with no further hesitation, lifting up
the poor creature, who had not recovered, took
her away. She must have been of light weight,
for he carried her as though she were a child.
I wonder if she died in his arms.

A few minutes afterwards I was at St. Paul's,
One door only of the immense basilica had
been left open to the public. Admission
through the others had been reserved for persons favored with special tickets. The festival
was the 229th anniversary of the corporation of
the Sons of the Clergy, established by royal
charlor under Charles H. The object of the
corporation is to pension the poor widow's and
aged single daughters of decased ceraymen,
and to educate and apprentice their children.

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This corporation is possessed of estates and built by Sir Christopher Wren after the great fire of London. In 1850 it was momentarily

and to educate and apprentice their children. This corporation is possessed of estates and funded property, but it reckons also on public confributions.

A most respectable medicy of devont souls were pressing their way through the reserved porches. Having no ticket, I had to direct my steps toward the only door which had been opened to the public. Here people were more mixed and less piously inclined. When I entered the temple the first man I met was carrying his sweatheart on his shoulders, to allow her to see something of the pageant. A few steps further I came in collision with a man, who was lounging about with his hat on his head. Then on my right, in one of the still vacant nickes. I beheld an old couple partaking of some fruit, white on my left, under the folds of the glorious and much taitered flag of the LVII. Middlessey, two young people were changed in a limeh of sandwiches and biscuits. Esswhere were mon, whom I should not like to meet alone at hight on the embankment, lying down against monuments or piers, some sleening, some taking. Suddlenly came a rush, and most neople climbed their seats. The procession, composed of the Lords Archibishops of Canterbury and York, of the Bishops of London, of the Lord Mayor, and of many other elerical and civic dignitaries, had started from the Wellington Chapel, and was marching toward the Dome. At that same moment I was luckily recognized by one of the stewards who showed me to a chair near the transept. Then, out of the stience which had established itself, rose in the distant choir of the immense clarich most beautiful music. A full and spiendid orcinestra, accompanied by the mighty organ, brought forth with admirable force and feeling one of the succompanied by the mighty organ, brought forth with admirable force and feeling one of the most expressive symphonies I ever heard. The harmonious strains, varied with a masterily art, breathed out in turn the noblest and most exalted inspirations. The grand cathedral had grown dark while the last choirs of the mis

THE MYSTERIES OF YUGATAN.

tures of ruined cities once the home of a lost race, but now the habitation of beasts of prey, birds of gorgeous plumage, and strange reptiles. Perhaps no part of the continent is more interesting to the archaeologist, for if these temples and palaces, which are buried under the jungle, can be forced to disclose the secrets of their history, they will undoubtedly tell us much about the early civilizations of America, and the invasions which destroyed them.

It is now forty years since attention was called to these ruins by Mr. Stevens; but although the importance of his discoveries was recognized by the scientific world the peculiar difficulties in the way have so hindered the work of exploration that comparatively little has been done. The country is remote, the climate very unhealthy, the natives lazy and suspicious, and the jungle filled with dangers. Hence few have had the opportunity, courage, and eatherse to continue the work so wall begun by Mr. Stevens.

and suspicious, and the jungle filled with dangers. Hence few have had the opportunity, courage, and cathene to continue the work so wail begun by Mr. Stevens.

Within the past three years, however, much has been done by Mr. Louis H. Ayme, the United States Consul at Merida, to increase our knowledge of this curious subject. Mr. Ayme is a trained observer, and has furown himself into the work with great zeal. He has visited most, if not all, of the sixty-three buried cities which have been discovered, and has studied the principal ruins with great care. What is covered by this simple statement, few persons, sitting comfortably at breakfast, can imagine. The ruins are reached only by a ride of eighty miles through the jungle, and when the visitor arrives at the end of his piggrimage he must know how and where to look or he will not lind a trace of a habitation. The site once determined, the rank vegetation which indes it must be cut away, stones scraped and overturned, secret passages explored, images and insertptions scrutinized, photographs and drawings made, and all under the rays of a tropical sun, in jungles which exhale levers and hide dangers of many kinds.

Mr. Ayme has returned to the United States for the purpose of reporting his discoveries to the scientific societies with which he is in correspondence, and to obtain their help in further presecution of the work. He ascribes to the ruins of Uxmal and elsewhere an antiquity of not less than 1,000 years, though he does not subscribe to the very great antiquity claimed for them by Dr. Le Pongeon. On the contrary, he discredits this theory, while giving his fellow explorer praise for his great learning and enthasiasm. The notion that these ruins date back to some remote epoch has a touch of romance which appeals to the popular fancy, and their appearance does much to make such a theory plausible; but in Yucatan carved stone crumbles repaid, and in suppern on the wail of a building in Uxmal, which seems to be an effort at the ropresentation of a Sentiard o

Plucky Little Hunters.

From the St. Louis Republican. Three boys - Harry Hart and Rufus and Marshall Whitnah-aged respectively 16, 15 and 12 years, went out squired hunting in Iron county last week They ran acrone a den of catamounts in Proughs Hollow, about one nile cast of Ironton. Their dogs flow the track, but the boys fronter the 'varmints' bravely, and brought away their scalps. When they got through killing the hows had five deed catamounts before theman oid "she" and four half grown kittens. THE COLOR LINE

A Reminiscence of the Days of Slavery.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The discussion in your columns of the present as-pects of the "color line" reminds me of a very impressive spectacle which I witnessed in a fashionable church in Charleston, S. C., in the year 1848. It was a Presbyterian church, and the congregation was composed of some of the most wealthy and aristocratic families. Probably there was not a pewholder who was not a slaveholder. Passing this church on a Sunday noon, at the hour of the communion service, stepped in out of euriosity to see it. I found a oody of about three hundred communicants one-third of whom at least were negroes of oth sexes, all very neatly dressed. The colored people had come down from the galleries, and were seated on benches placed in the middle aisle of the church. They were served with the bread and wine by the same leacons, venerable white gentlemen, and from the same massive silver vessels, by whom and from which their masters and mistresses were served in the pews and at the same time. I saw no distinction whatever in the whole service. The pastor addressed all alike and there at least, in the administration of the most solemn rite of Christianity, the color line was completely disregarded. I know not from observation how common this practice was in other churches of the South during the days of slavery, but I was told that it was thing rule where the slaves and their mass, longed to the same congregation and members of the same church when wa longed to the same congregation and members of the same church, which was eraily the case with the domestic servants had religious tendencies.

New that you have started an inquiry the present tendency of the colored positive with the color in the for themselves. It was very interesting if some competent p would give us the facts which show how how with the color of the color of

aw enough in l satisfy me that the relations between the by races in some of the color Southern 8, are his some very beautiful and touching as the some very beautiful and touching a the some power to benefit by their superior intentions their colored feilow citizens, and whether the have the same disposition are questions of which we need light. Many things would see to show that the Christianity and palamitizer of the South are doing a great deal in the right of the South are doing a great deal in the right freedom. How far these efforts are inneed by political action and the disturbances party politics it would be satisfactory to know that any position in the satisfactory to know the same and that I had some opertunity in it to observe one of its worst. I such three four weeks in the spring of that year Alkon, and boarded at a sould hock in fronts of which ran the rational from the considerable gaings of negroes were been transported to Texas and other regions the Southwest. The trains stopped experiences for the same of the purpose studying the countenances and appearance these stackym the sountenances and appearance these stackym the point of the purpose, in slape in a long barrel, but with plenty of consenue. these slaves. They were carried in a neculikind of car, built for the burpose, it slape it at long barrel, but with plenty of openings it air and provision for water. They were so he sexes and all ages, very few were troned at a but now and then there would be a mad bar now and then there would be a mad handcuffs who had a vicious aspect. It mothers who had a little children were we cared for. I could not defect in the continuous of any of them any sign of sufficiency of discontent. Their general appearance was that of good-immorred indifferences continues they were polly and excited by the propect of new scenes and a new home. Both less they consisted for the most part of slav that had been soid on the breaking up of ocstates, or in consequence of the inservace.

less they consisted by the most part of shave that had been soid on the breaking up of old estates, or in consequence of the insavency of their former owners, or because in a rare case the individual had become unmanageable by his master. In a few instances I conversed with some of the more intelligent, but I could make out no unhappiness. I do not, of cautre, mention this in palliation of the system but because it was to men study which I possecuted for a few weeks nearly every day with a great deal of interest.

Ten years later I had an opportunity of observing the system in its best and most patriarchal aspect. In the year 1859 I made a visit of several days at a well-known estate on the James River. The owner, whom I small not name, was a Christian gentleman, and a most ostimable man in every relation of ife. He had inherited a magnificent property at an early age, on which there were between two and three hundred negroes at the time of my visit. He tood me that he had hever bought a stay at that his romoval gave great satisfaction to all the others. My host was then between 50 and 60, and I have no reason to doubt that he spoke the truth when he said that he would as soon sell one of his own children as to sell a slave that he could possibly keep. Suelr a slave holder was of course, although not by any means a rarity, one of the highest class, trenting his pespic as done of his regions of the highest class, trenting his pespic as done of his had one of the highest class, trenting his pespic as done of his had one of the highest class, trenting his pespic as done of his had one of the highest class, trenting his pespic as done of his had one of the highest class, trenting his pespic as and to converse with them on any subject that I chose. I found that in point of lodging clothes bedding food, all the naterial candors of die their condition was greaty Was Uxmal on Inhabited City when the Spaniards Invaded Mexico!

The name of Yucatan calls up mental pictures of ruined cities once the home of a lost turns of ruined cities once turns of ruined c

the work of my garden at the fughest rate of wares then paid in New England and whose faminy I had to assist with something more than his wages in order that they might keep body and soul together. In unbounded affection for their master and his family these feetroes were a sight worth seeing I believe that any one of them would have had down his life at any time for Mr. — or all one of his family.

Now, as to the color line at that time on such an estate as that of Mr. — in Virgion. I went on a Sunday morning with him and his family to an Episcopai efforch at some distance from his house, which was supported by him and other phanters in the negligible paid of the conceptual, they conceptually the distance of the same service, and so discome of the servants of the other families worshipping at the same chairs.

country hane in the neighborhood of and meeting a very respectable rold neighborhood of the conversation. She pointed out to me he a decent cottage not far off, and toking she "duln't do no work now, that her massa" took care of her. I asked her had a husband. She said: "No sah one once. He biong d to Mr. dar on the nex' plantashin. He after anoder woman, and his massa him one day an 'teel him an and lieked an 'he run away, an I hain't have none a Probably this does not imply that there exer been a marriage ceremony but it in ply that when there was an asknowledged iton of husband and wife, the parties we pacted to conform to it; which perhability he said of states of society whore cations for divorce are advertised to be without any charge, unless they are states and where they are successful in such bees that the marriage tie, be it a configuration obligation, is not of much accounting long obligation, is not of much account

From the tourise Journal

WASHINGTON, May 28. - A bit of fashionable
theligence was imparted to a scenery of granteness to

Judge Lynch in Louislana.

While D. C. Butchins, who killed wheresteen II to him asked one of the pure problem in price. Here is might defend him self it will be being unfreeded. Himchins drew a sport with a stabled himself three times about the feath the stable himself three the stable himself three three three himself three times about the feath of the stable himself to his body.

There is a point when forthermore censes to be a returned to the continuous. Tetermans—both of our returning it you do, you will follow the desperado and this?

The Tetermans are storetweepers, and it is beneved they instigated the killing of Lyon.